

Notes
Quarterly Arkansas Conference Call with EPA
Tuesday, June 8, 2021
10 AM CST

Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)

Attendees:

EPA: Jatin Mistry and Ruben Camacho
ADH: Jeff Stone, Lance Jones, Teresa Lee, Robin Michaels,
Greg Treadway, David Bradley, Aaron Hilborn

- Staffing Updates
 - ADH staffing updates
 - I. Amelia Trimble has retired
 - 1. ADH Team members are pitching in to assist during this transition.
 - 2. The process to refill this position has begun.
 - II. Several District Engineer positions are open and in the process of being filled.
 - III. A Technical Support Engineer is out on medical leave.
 - IV. A Engineering Supervisor is out on leave till Summer.
 - V. There is one Water Quality Sampling Technician position open. The workload can be undertaken with the remaining 7 samplers for the summer.
 - VI. ADH is in the process of filling in a new position to support work on lead and copper.
 - VII. The AWOP Environmental Health Specialist position has been filled.
 - EPA staffing updates
 - I. Survey for return to work concerns was due on June 4.
 - II. The current EPA work status is Situational Telework until further notice.
 - III. No staffing changes in the Drinking Water Section.
 - IV. No staffing changes in the Enforcement Drinking Water Section.
 - V. The grants section has one new team member.
- COVID-19 Impacts to Program
 - Work Status
 - I. Current office status
 - 1. All ADH staff on COVID-19 leave returned back to the office on May 17.
 - 2. Visitors are allowed into the ADH offices and the mask mandates have been lifted.

- 3. Unvaccinated persons are requested to wear a mask.
 - II. Update on the ADH COVID-19 Travel Pause
 - 1. ADH is now returning back to pre-COVID-19 travel.
 - 2. Focus will be on addressing any backlogs of sanitary surveys.
- Laboratory concerns
 - I. No laboratory issues have been identified.
 - II. The turn around times for IOC analyses has greatly improved over the past year.
- Program impacts
 - I. With the return of in-person drinking water conferences, the Fall 2021 conference schedule looks full with activities being planned by Arkansas Rural Water and AWWA.
- PWSS/SRF
 - The 2020-2021 SRF grant is due by June 18 by ANRC to EPA Region 6.
 - ANRC's goal is to submit the grant by the end of the month.
 - 2021 ADH Needs Survey
 - I. $\frac{3}{4}$ of Arkansas water systems have been initially contacted.
 - II. $\frac{1}{4}$ of Arkansas water systems have responded
 - III. Some of the new needs identified:
 - 1. New pumping stations
 - 2. New distribution lines
 - ADH's new QMP has been approved and is number QMP 21-231 that expires on June 11, 2022.
 - EPA is receiving inquiries via EPA's SAFEWATER website from citizens for information on infrastructure grants/programs for local water systems.
- Capacity Development
 - The types of outreach performed during Quarter 2 2021 consists of the following:
 - I. ADH = Focused on disinfection byproduct profiles, bench scale analyses and hold studies
 - II. ARWA = Leak detection, valve locations, valve repairs, tank level and control and flow tracing
 - III. Communities Unlimited = Assisted with billing software, unaccounted water, budgets, Emergency Response Plans, Vulnerability assessments. Communities Unlimited's allotment has been tapped out for the year and will take on new tasks after the new fiscal year.
 - ADH is aware that the submission of the revised Capacity Development Strategy (inclusion of asset management) is due by December 31, 2021.

- For the Arkansas stakeholder involvement regarding the Cap Dev revisions, ADH will work with ANRC's Water and Wastewater Advisory Committee (WAC) for this outreach.
- ADH will inform Jonathan Reynolds when this outreach occurs.
- Enforcement
 - Region 6 Enforcement held a call with ADH Enforcement on June 1 to discuss the quarterly ETT list. AR had 6 systems with ETT scores >10.
 - EPA will be providing compliance assistance by sending NOVOC letters to 5 different systems and 1 AO to Bois D Arc (a Warning Letter was sent to this system last year, but ADH wanted to hold off on the AO till after the hearing).
 - 2 NOVOCs have been routed to management thus far
 - I. Three Oaks Resort (ART000550)
 - II. Holly Grove Waterworks (AR0000388)
 - 3 should be routed by end of next week
 - I. Mount Ida Waterworks (AR0000392)
 - II. HWY 82 Water Association (AR0000547)
 - III. Banks Waterworks (AR000068)
- Data
 - ADH is scheduled to submit the 2020 Annual PWS Compliance Report to EPA HQ before July 1, 2021.
 - ADH has not experienced any concerns or issues with their quarterly uploads.
 - ADH stated that no additional special uploads are needed at this time.
- Drinking Water
 - ADH has completed 62 sanitary surveys since October 1, 2020.
 - Additional sanitary surveys are being scheduled for the remainder of the year.
 - Preparation for CCR for July 1
 - I. All ADH CCRs have been completed and uploaded to the ADH CCR website.
 - II. The next step is to wait for the certifications to come in.
 - The City of El Dorado has completed its asbestos concrete line replacement project and is in the last quarter of their asbestos monitoring.
 - Water systems continue to have difficulty addressing DBPs and maintaining operator certifications.
 - The current Health Based violations tracker for Q 1 2021 = 70 / Goal = 51 by 2022

- ADH Discussion Items
 - 2021 End of Year Report Section on Tier 3 Public Notices
 - I. EPA HQ is asking for a review of Tier 3 notices as follow up from the OIG Report.
 - 1. Examples from March 2021 provided were notices for Indian Switch Rural Water Association (AR781) and The Langley Store (ART0322).
 - 2. Certification for Indian Switch Rural Water Association has been received.
 - II. Additional examples provided were for the following systems:
 - 1. Humphrey Waterworks (AR10) M/R for RTCR
 - 2. Brentwood Rest Area (AR988) M/R for RTCR
 - 3. Mountain Development (AR932) M/R for RTCR
 - III. From January to March 2021, ADH has issued 32 public notice violations.
 - The following due dates for America's Water Infrastructure Act of 2018 were discussed:
 - I. Systems 3,301 to 49,999 Risk and Resilience Assessment due on June 30, 2021
 - II. Systems 50,000 to 99,999 Emergency Response Plan due on June 30, 2021
 - III. Systems 3, 301 to 49,999 Emergency Response Plan due by December 31, 2021
 - Does ADH's original primacy application for SDWA on July 10, 1979, have any special requirements for 40 CFR 142.10 (e)?
 - I. The State has adopted and can implement an adequate plan for the provision of safe drinking water under emergency circumstances including, but not limited to earthquakes, floods, hurricanes, and other natural disasters.
 - II. In Arkansas, drinking water emergencies are elevated through the water system's county emergency director which then can elevate the issue to the Arkansas Division of Emergency Management (ADEM). ADEM provides state level leadership, resources and coordination for a comprehensive all-hazards approach to emergencies and disasters impacting Arkansas.
 - III. Arkansas regulations require water systems to have an Emergency Response Plan and to notify ADH for any drinking water emergencies.
- Assistance from EPA Region 6
 - At this time no assistance is being requested by ADH.
- The Next Quarterly Arkansas Conference Call with EPA will be on Tuesday, September 14, 2021, at 10 AM.